

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1020

To move toward energy independence through a coordinated development of renewable energy sources, including wave, solar, wind, geothermal, and biofuels production.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2007

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. CORNYN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To move toward energy independence through a coordinated development of renewable energy sources, including wave, solar, wind, geothermal, and biofuels production.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Creating Renewable
5 Energy through Science and Technology Act” or the
6 “CREST Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. RENEWABLE ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

8 The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42
9 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 16 as section 17;
2 and

3 (2) by inserting after section 15 the following:

4 **“SEC. 16. RENEWABLE ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

5 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of the Founda-
6 tion shall establish the Council on Renewable Energy (re-
7 ferred to in this section as the ‘CORE’) to—

8 “(1) advise Congress on renewable energy de-
9 velopment, strategy, research, and marketability;
10 and

11 “(2) facilitate collaboration among Federal
12 agencies regarding the execution of national renew-
13 able energy objectives.

14 “(b) DUTIES.—The CORE shall—

15 “(1) promote renewable energy research and de-
16 velopment in the areas of wind, wave, solar, geo-
17 thermal, and biofuels production, particularly cel-
18 lulosic;

19 “(2) consult with renewable energy experts re-
20 garding renewable energy policies and make policy
21 recommendations to Federal agencies; and

22 “(3) identify and recommend public and private
23 research institutions to carry out renewable energy
24 research described in paragraph (1).

25 “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The CORE shall consist of
2 the following members (or their designees):

3 “(A) The Secretary of Energy.

4 “(B) The Secretary of Agriculture.

5 “(C) The Secretary of Commerce.

6 “(D) The Administrator of the National
7 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

8 “(E) The Director of the Office of Science
9 and Technology Policy.

10 “(F) Representatives from public labora-
11 tories.

12 “(G) Representatives of industry and trade
13 groups.

14 “(H) Representatives of State agencies.

15 “(2) SELECTION PROCESS.—Not later than 90
16 days after the date of the enactment of this section,
17 the Director of the Foundation, in consultation with
18 the members listed in subparagraphs (A) through
19 (E) of paragraph (1), shall select the members listed
20 in subparagraphs (F) through (H) of paragraph (1).

21 “(d) MEETINGS.—

22 “(1) CHAIRPERSON.—The CORE shall select a
23 Chairperson from among its members.

1 “(2) MEETINGS.—The CORE shall convene, in
2 person or by electronic means, at least 4 times a
3 year, at the call of the Chairperson.

4 “(3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members
5 serving on the Advisory Committee shall constitute
6 a quorum for purposes of conducting the business of
7 the Advisory Committee.

8 “(e) POWERS.—

9 “(1) HEARINGS.—The CORE may hold such
10 hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take
11 such testimony, and receive such evidence as the
12 CORE considers advisable to carry out the purposes
13 of this section.

14 “(2) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

15 “(A) COMPENSATION.—Members of the
16 CORE shall serve without compensation, but
17 shall receive travel expenses, including per diem
18 in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sec-
19 tions 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States
20 Code.

21 “(B) STAFF.—The Chairperson may, with-
22 out regard to the civil service laws and regula-
23 tions, appoint, terminate, and set the com-
24 pensation of an executive director and such
25 other additional personnel as may be necessary

1 to enable the CORE to perform the duties de-
2 scribed in subsection (b).

3 “(3) COOPERATION.—The CORE may secure
4 directly from any Federal agency or private entity
5 such information as the CORE considers necessary
6 to perform the duties described in subsection (b).

7 “(f) ANNUAL REPORT.—The CORE shall submit an
8 annual report to Congress that contains—

9 “(1) a summary of the CORE’s activities;

10 “(2) recommendations regarding Federal fund-
11 ing for renewable energy development research; and

12 “(3) recommendations regarding the expendi-
13 ture of such funding on the particular renewable en-
14 ergy sources specified in subsection (b)(1).

15 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
17 necessary to carry out this section.”.

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